

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of Meeting of the Kirk Session of Lochgilphead Parish Church held on Tuesday 3rd December 2019 in Church Hall.

Sederunt

Present: Rev Hilda Smith, Ian Davidson, Margaret Davidson, Malcolm MacFadyen, Jessie Cranston, Elma Munro, Margaret Jacobsen, Frances Fleming and Mary MacDonald.

Apologies:

Edna Armstrong, Jim Morrison, Sandy Taylor and May Taylor.

Hilda opened the meeting with a reading from Phillipians Ch.4, v4-9, thereafter constituted the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of 28th October were approved; proposed by Ian Davidson and seconded by Malcolm MacFadyen.

Matters Arising

The proposed 'Friends of LPC' letter has now been circulated to members of Session but it was decided to defer discussion on it until the next meeting.

It has been established from the church insurers that there would not be a restriction on the church being open and unattended in daylight hours at set times, providing that all steps are taken to ensure that any visitor would not be at risk from any obstructions and thereby liable to claim for any accidents. After discussion, it was decided that Ian Davidson will undertake a Risk Assessment before Session makes a final decision, but there was general agreement in principle on opening the church and days and times will be discussed at the first meeting in 2020.

Correspondence

Argyllshire Advertiser has contacted LPC regarding advertising our Christmas Services on 13th and 20th December at a cost of £30 for 1 week and £45 for 2. It was decided that advertising on 20th December would be sufficient and Ian Davidson will arrange for this to be done.

Mid Argyll Planning Group

GKF have expressed their disappointment and anger in not being allowed to call a Minister. They have also received no response from Presbytery to their recent letter. It was proposed that David Mitchell, Presbytery Planning Organiser, be invited to a meeting to clarify the expectations from us in Mid Argyll.

It was noted that David Carruthers has now stepped down as chair of the Planning Group.

LPC Church Action Plan 2019-2024

Worship

Discussion tonight focused on all aspects of worship, first being participation in doing Prayers at Sunday Service. Hilda advised of the many resources available to anyone considering this including daily reading matter and setting up small groups sharing faith in perhaps short 4 week courses. The Guild were commended for their leadership at meetings and it was suggested that they may wish to do a combined prayer in Church some Sundays as potential to also serve the Church in another way.

The congregation could also be asked to think about what could be prayed for in church and advise Hilda.

In thinking of opening up to the community, we could consider some open air services, maybe jointly with other local churches, which could be held on the front green. Alternatively, we could occasionally use the grounds of our own church in summer.

Inviting the community to a meal was also a plan.

Hilda and Margaret told us about Godly Play, an alternative way of worshipping, which was demonstrated at the Presbytery Meeting today and of how they were impressed by this. Hilda said she would like to do this but would try it out on the children first before committing to it as it may be expensive.

At the next meeting focus is to be on Outreach and Pastoral.

Finance

The finance report had been circulated. Gift Aid claim has been submitted for the second half of the year and we are awaiting approx. £3,000 which will cover the shortfall for the year to date.

Mary stated that she is also now in a position to repay £3,000 to the Project Fund (restricted funds) leaving a balance of £2,000 still due from loan given earlier in the year.

Presbytery Report – was tabled

Fabric

Property Report had been circulated. Ian reported that we were unsuccessful in obtaining a grant from the A'Chruach Wind Farm Fund to help with the repairs to the Stained Glass Windows in the chancel. He will now proceed with an application to the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund and will also set up a crowdfunding page and publicise the problems in the local press. An approach will also be made to the General Trustees.

Social

There was a good turnout at the recent Quiz night.

The church Christmas lunch will take place on 15th December and Burns Supper on 1st February.

Hall Bookings have been made for 11th-16th March 2020 inclusive, by the Mid Argyll Music Festival and the Arts Association. A 'week of culture'.

Safeguarding

There was no report.

Worship

22nd December - Nativity

24th December - Christmas Eve 11.15pm

25th December - Family Service at 11am

Next Session Meeting will be on Wednesday 12th February 2020.

Hilda closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Session Clerk

Date:

